

American jobs. China has 800 million people living in the countryside, where underemployment afflicts one in three workers; for these people, wages of \$2 a day represent an attractive income. Market forces, not denial of workers' rights, are overwhelmingly the main reason for China's low wages.

Still, China's abusive labor practices are abhorrent, so one can agree with the unions' objective without accepting their supporting argument. The question is whether trade sanctions are the right way to help Chinese workers. Sanctions can sometimes work, especially if their aim is to extract specific concessions: that certain prisoners be released, for example, or that a particular labor practice be stopped. The unions' demand is that China set up an administrative system to enforce labor rights throughout its vast manufacturing sector. That might prove more than the communist regime can stomach, in which case the trade sanctions would disrupt trade without improving labor rights—retarding the economic progress that may bring political freedom in the long run.

The Bush administration must decide whether to consider the petition and what sanctions if any to apply. If it accepted the idea of imposing trade penalties on China, the Chinese would likely appeal to the World Trade Organization's arbitration panel, and the appeal might well be successful, forcing the United States to lift its sanctions. If, on the other hand, the panel sided with the United States, the WTO would for the first time have imposed on its members a duty to protect labor standards.

Would this be a good thing? Yes, provided that these labor standards governed basic political freedoms rather than mandating minimum wages or even minimum standards of safety. Imposing economic regulation on poor countries would harm poor workers by destroying their jobs. But even if the new standards were reasonable, they might cause a backlash from developing countries, which regard external imposition of labor standards as protectionism in disguise. If developing countries withdrew from the WTO as a consequence, trade would be disrupted, and workers would suffer once again.

In short, if trade is used as a lever to promote a revolution in international labor rights, the lever will break. Still, the unions are pursuing a good cause, and the administration should agree to consider their petition. Here's a small proposal: To allay poor countries' fears of disguised protectionism, the United States should couple measured promotion of labor rights with bigger cuts in U.S. tariffs on products such as textiles and sugar. That would displease some U.S. unions and businesses, but it would further the interests of the world's poorest workers.

HONORING AND CONGRATULATING  
MR. THOMAS M. McDERMOTT

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 30, 2004*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I congratulate Mr. Thomas M. McDermott on his retirement from the Northwest Indiana Forum. Tom has spent the past 11 years dedicating his life to the promotion of economic development and growth in Northwest Indiana. His career as President and CEO of the Northwest Indiana Forum has allowed him the opportunity to touch the lives of many people. In honor of his gracious service to his community, there will

be a celebration of his accomplishments on March 31 at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Indiana.

Tom McDermott has accomplished many visionary goals throughout his career. Before joining the Forum in 1992, Tom served as Mayor of the City of Hammond for nine years. Prior to that, Mr. McDermott served as Circulation Director of The Times and as Suburban Circulation Director for the Chicago Sun Times. Tom has also ventured into the newspaper and radio business, serving at one time as owner of WIMS Radio in Michigan City, WXRJ in Crown Point, WJOB in Hammond, WCGO in Chicago Heights, Illinois, WABT in Kane County, Illinois, and WZVN in Merrillville.

Not only has Tom had many positive accomplishments throughout his career, he has also actively contributed to his community through participation in various programs aimed at improving opportunities for the people of Northwest Indiana. He has been a powerful member of the Board of the Fund for American Studies, the Lake Area United Way, Hoosier Boys Town, Boy Scouts of the Calumet Council, Lake Point Children's Discovery Center, Chancellor's Advisory Board at Purdue North Central, Partnership for a Drug Free Lake County, Northwest Indiana Urban League, Trade Winds Board, Welfare Reform Council, Campagna Academy Board, and the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Board. In addition, Tom has addressed educators and community leaders in London on partnership programs to encourage excellence in education, and was chosen by the American Council of Young Political Leaders to represent the United States in Australia and Norway.

Along with his many other accomplishments, Tom has received numerous community service and leadership awards, including "Business Person of the Year" from the Hammond Chamber of Commerce. Other awards include: Lake County Economic Opportunity Council Service Award, Greater Hammond Community Services "Man of the Year" award, and the American Business Women's Association "Boss of the Year" award.

Mr. Speaker, Tom McDermott has given his time and efforts selflessly to the people of Northwest Indiana throughout his years of service. He has taught every member of his staff the true meaning of service to all members of the Northwest Indiana community. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Tom McDermott for his outstanding contributions to Indiana's First Congressional District. I am proud to commend him for his lifetime of service and dedication.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL  
HINDMARSH

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 30, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Russell Hindmarsh for the contributions he has made to his Dolores community and the State of Colorado. Recently, Russell was chosen as Cattleman of the Year for his lifelong commitment to the cattle industry. It is with great sat-

isfaction that I congratulate Russell for this well-deserved honor, and thank him for his contributions to his community and state.

A veteran of the Korean War, Russell began working in the livestock industry at a young age, and learned to ranch sheep and cattle from his father. As his career in the industry progressed, he has focused his attention to raising cattle. Russell's involvement in the ranching community of Colorado includes having served on the advisory boards for the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, serving on the Southwest Livestock Association board, and serving on the Montezuma Woolgrowers board. He also is a former member of the Colorado Woolgrowers, the National Woolgrowers, the Colorado Cattlemen, and the National Cattlemen.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Russell Hindmarsh has a legacy of strong commitment to the cattle industry in the Dolores community and the State of Colorado. Russell's efforts to keep this great tradition of ranching vibrant is worthy of recognition before this body of Congress and this nation today. It is my privilege to extend to Russell my sincere congratulations on being named Cattleman of the Year for 2004, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS I. "BUTCH"  
HODGKINS

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 30, 2004*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to a man with a truly distinguished public service career. For nearly four decades, Francis I. "Butch" Hodgkins has served Sacramento County with great class and distinction. Butch will soon retire from his current position as the Executive Director of the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency. As his friends, family and colleagues gather to celebrate Butch's illustrious career, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding citizen of Sacramento.

Butch received his Associate of Science degree from Sacramento City College and then moved on to California State University, Sacramento for a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. In 1965, Butch began his four-decade long career with the County of Sacramento, Department of Public Works. From 1972 until 1988, he worked for Public Works Division of Sacramento County that dealt with the sewer system.

In March of 1989, Butch was appointed Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works for Sacramento County. During his tenure at this position, he served as the project and construction engineer for a \$100 million wastewater construction program. In addition, as Chief of the Division, he was responsible for a \$50 million per year regional wastewater project.

In September 1991, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors assigned Butch to the City and County Office of Water Planning. In his capacity as a Liaison for the City and County Office of Water Planning, Butch was charged with the formidable task of formulating an area-wide plan to provide safe and reliable water supply in such a manner which